

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

[0015] Referring to Figure 1, the expandable device 10 is illustrated schematically within a wellbore 12. It is important to note that the drawing is schematic and as depicted, this device is not connected to any other device by tubing or otherwise although in practice it would be connected to other tubing on at least one end thereof. The device includes a base pipe 14 on which is mounted a screen 16 spaced from the base pipe by an amount sufficient to facilitate the drainoff of a fluidic component of the slurry. A ring 20 is mounted to base pipe 14 to space screen 16 from base pipe 14 and to prevent ingress and egress of fluid to space 22 but for through screen 16. For purposes of explanation this is illustrated at the uphole end of the depicted configuration but could exist on the downhole end thereof or could be between the uphole and downhole end if particular conditions dictated but this would require drain off in two directions and would be more complex. An exit passage 24 is also provided through base pipe 14 for the exit of fluidic material that is drained off through screen 16 toward base pipe 14. In this embodiment, the fluid exit passage is at the downhole end of the tool. The fluid exit passage 24 could be located anywhere along base pipe 14 but may provide better packing of the downhole end of the device if it is positioned as illustrated in this embodiment. At the downhole end of screen 16 the screen is connected to end means 26. Downhole end means 26 and uphole end means 28 support the expandable element 30 as illustrated. As can be ascertained from drawing Figure 1, a defined area 32 is provided between screen 16 and element 30. The defined area 32 is provided with an entrance passageway 34 and a check valve 36 through which slurry may enter the defined area 32. The defined area 32 to may also optionally include an exit passage check valve 37.